

BEST COPY
AVAILABLE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Mr. W. E. Calbert
The Department of State
Office of European Regional Affairs
Room 7224 New State
Washington, D. C.

DATE: 26 February 1958

FROM : [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
Deputy Chief, Economic Research

THRU : Chief, St/I/RR

SUBJECT : Comments on ECE Steel Inquiry

REFERENCE: Letter dated 14 February 1958 to Senior Economic Officer
from Director of Steel, Engineering and Housing Division
of the ECE, and attachment, requesting information on
steel.

1. In response to your request, we have reviewed the reference letter. The major portion of the information requested has already been published for some prior years by the USSR in their unclassified Handbooks, and a substantial portion of the requested information has also been published by Czechoslovakia and Poland in open sources. Therefore, there is a limited intelligence interest in the small portion of requested data which are not already available on the USSR, Poland, and Czechoslovakia.

2. The major portion of the information requested in the reference has already been published on the US industry by the American Iron and Steel Institute. The US published data, however, is not, in all cases, in the form which is presented in the reference. This applies particularly to the Communist practice of assessing blast furnace and open hearth efficiency in terms of coefficients. Since ECE also has adopted this practice, which is not followed in any Free World country, in their questionnaires, the question arises whether this should not be a matter for discussion by a special working group.

3. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review this steel inquiry. If we can be of help to you in the future, please call on us.

25X1A9a
[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~